

for self.

If there were nothing else to whine about, some people would whine to whine.

The church is not the only institution in which you will run up against shams.

Roann, Ind.

## The Christian Life

### "I Am Alive Forevermore"

I know that my Redeemer lives ;  
What joy the blest assurance gives !  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead ;  
He lives, my everlasting Head !

He lives, to bless me with his love ;  
He lives, to plead for me above ;  
He lives, my hungry soul to feed ;  
He lives, to help in time of need.

He lives, and grants me daily breath ;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death ;  
He lives, my mansion to prepare ;  
He lives, to bring me safely there.

He lives—all glory to his name !  
He lives, my Savior, still the same ;  
What joy the blest assurance gives,  
I know that my Redeemer lives !

—Samuel Medley.

### The Message of Easter-tide

Christian Advocate.

Easter is probably the most sacred memorial of the Christian year. There is a distinct note of joy in Christmas, while the song of the Easter tide is set to a minor key, altho there is running thru it the clear and positive note of sublime triumph. The advent of the Christ child was hailed with expressions of gladness, while the crucifixion of the gentle Jesus plunged the sons of men into impenetrable gloom. That His prophecies concerning his resurrection were possible of fulfillment was hardly credible to most of his followers. But He substantiated all his claims and broke the bands of death ; and when he came forth from the grave the awful gloom that had enveloped those who had believed on him was dispelled. This victory over death and the grave was more than a mere fulfillment of his prophetic words. It contained a promise of triumph to all those who should choose to walk in the way of the cross. He made it clear, by teaching and example, and that to follow him involved sacrifice and self denial, and that "whosoever will save his life shall lose it, and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it." The way marked out for his disciples was to be a way of surrender, and even a way of death, but it was also to be a way of life and of the attainment of the highest glory.

All this was wonderfully emphasized in His own life, and is vividly recalled in connection with these memorial days. Who can think of Easter without having brought to his mind a picture of the Savior in his passion during the days and nights that immediately preceded his death ? Was there ever suffering like unto his—so intense, so crushing, so poignant ? And with what a spirit of sublime self-sacrifice he endured it all ! Something of the same experience is meted out to all

who take up their cross and follow him ; and as he triumphed over these things, so may his disciples become "more than conquerors thru him that loved us."

The thought of death cannot be dissociated from Easter. There is probably no more stern, startling, or terrible fact in human experience than that of death. We know it is inevitable, and yet how naturally we shrink from it ; how we hesitate to admit it as a factor in the problems of our everyday life. But there it is. We cannot escape it. Some day we must meet it face to face. If the Christian may triumph over the sufferings of life, as did the divine Master, so may he also become victorious over death ; and as the grave had no terror for the Savior, so may his disciples approach the grave, made luminous by the presence of the Son of God, and exclaim in serene exultation : "O death, where is thy sting ? O grave, where is thy victory ?"

To the serene believer the Easter-tide has a message of hope, of triumph, and of holy joy. The gloom has been scattered by the Light. The Savior risen from the tomb enables him to enlarge the horizon of his life beyond the metes and bounds of this present life, so as to include the life that is to come. This life that he now lives in the flesh resolves itself into a brief preparatory stage, and death is but the golden portal thru which he passes into the larger, more satisfying, and more glorious life beyond. It is not strange, that St. Paul was willing to sacrifice all things, that he might know Him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, if by any means he might himself attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Possibly in the remarkable spiritual awakening that formed the turning point of his career St. Paul had a foretoken of immortality and a glimpse of that inheritance which is incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, which is reserved in heaven for all those that love Christ, and his soul reached out with desire after its full and complete possession ; and no sacrifice was too great to make, no burden too heavy to bear, no suffering too intense to endure, no humiliation too crushing to undergo, in order that he might secure this desired result, and receive his crown of life.

Easter is a memorial of love—the love of God and his Son, for man. This love demanded sacrifice and suffering for its expression. The sacrifice was made. The suffering was endured. The price of redemption cannot be computed, but it was paid by the Son of God and the Son of man when he yielded Himself up to shameful death on the cross. Such love should provoke mankind to similar devotion to Christ. The bond of love between us and the crucified One should be so strong that the fervid declaration of the apostle shall be the expression of our own affection : "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be

able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

### BROKEN HEARTS

L. G. WOOD

"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart." Psalms 34 : 18.

There are times in this life that we have great sorrows that are to be borne alone as far as human aid is concerned. At the time we, call the loudest there is no one in hearing, there is no one that can bear the burden or relieve the heart of its sorrow. At such a moment David directs the sorrowing one to the Lord who is nigh the "broken heart" and he has the word to comfort and the power to deliver. God's children should realize his nearness in affliction and sorrow just as real as in prosperity and joy. One says that is not nature. Perhaps it is not very natural but it was Paul's way of looking after he changed nature for grace. "Most gladly therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." II Cor. 12 : 9. If we would be comforted we must see the Master even thru our tears. When a cloud covers the sun it hides the sun from us for the time, but we know the sun is beyond the cloud and is shining some where

When death comes to our homes and plucks the little buds how dark the cloud that gathers o'er us. Just remember "the Lord is nigh." The Master does not reveal himself to us by single events but by an unbroken chain which is unraveled to us link after link by his great love and mercy. We should not try to see him from the single event standpoint, for no one event stands alone with him. Many of us no doubt have passed under dark clouds of sorrow which were hard to bear at the time but after seeing more of the Lord's purpose we must say "the Lord is good."

When Joseph was sold into Egypt it was a very dark cloud over his father Jacob, but twenty years later when the next link (event) appeared it brought deliverance to Israel from the famine. Again when the Marys went to the Savior's tomb early in the morning of the first day of the week sorrow filled their hearts, a cloud gathered o'er them, they found not their treasure and were sadly disappointed, but behold their disappointment when placed in the chain of God's great plan of redemption it means joy in sorrow, power in weakness, triumph in death and glory in resurrection to all who will walk with him by faith. "The Lord is nigh the broken heart."

Mulvane, Kans.

### The Prayer Life

The Examiner.

Prayer is a great privilege. For needy, sinful men and women to be permitted to come into the presence of the infinitely great and holy God in prayer, to make confession unto him of their sins, to unburden before him the troubles and cares which weigh heavily upon them, and to present their requests for needed strength, wisdom, and guidance,